

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Masahiro SAWAYANAGI et al. )  
) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Filed: September 23, 2003 )  
)  
For: BRACKET COUPLING )  
STRUCTURE )

**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language. An English-language abstract is attached.

1. Japanese Patent (Laid-Open) Application No. 7-288160 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.

The following is listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and is in a non-English language:

2. Japanese Utility Model (Laid-Open) Application No. 5-72076.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or translation of the listed non-English language documents, an English-language abstract of the document is attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please  
charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: September 23, 2003

By: 

David W. Hill

Reg. No. 28,220

Enclosures  
DWH/FPD/cma

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
[www.finnegan.com](http://www.finnegan.com)

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	06753.0565	Serial No.	TBA
Applicants	Masahiro SAWAYANAGI et al.		
Filing Date	September 23, 2003	Group:	Not yet assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		JP 7-288160	10/31/1995	Japan			Abstract
		JP 5-72076	09/28/1993	Japan			Abstract

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce